

HP Docket No. 10003333-1

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A method of communicating with an unknown mail server, comprising:
determining whether a machine-selected one of a plurality of mail server names
corresponds to a mail server associated with an on-line provider; and
communicating with the mail server associated with the on-line provider when the
machine-selected one of a plurality of mail server names corresponds to the mail server.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the determining includes:
providing an e-mail address for the on-line provider;
converting the e-mail address to a mail server name associated with the on-line
provider; and
linking to a mail port of a computer having the mail server name so as to verify
whether the mail server name corresponds to the mail server associated with the on-line
provider.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2,
wherein the e-mail address includes a suffix portion; and
wherein the converting includes
prepending a selected one of a predetermined set of mail server prefixes to the suffix
portion to form the mail server name associated with the on-line provider.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3,
wherein the e-mail address includes a first prefix portion and a first separator portion,
and
wherein the converting includes

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stripping the first prefix portion and the first separator portion from the e-mail address, and

appending a second separator different from the first separator to the selected one of a predetermined set of mail server prefixes so as to form the mail server name associated with the on-line provider.

5. (Original) The method of claim 2,
wherein the e-mail address includes a suffix portion; and
wherein the converting includes
obtaining the mail server name associated with the suffix portion from a database.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, further including:
downloading the database from a remote computer.

7. (Original) The method of claim 3, further including:
if validity of the mail server name is not verified, repeating the prepending and linking
using a different one of the predetermined set of mail server prefixes.

8. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein:
the suffix is a domain identifier,
the first prefix is a mailbox identifier,
the first separator is an "@" symbol,
the second prefix is a mail server prefix, and
the second separator is a "." symbol.

9. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the linking includes:
communicating with a domain name server to determine a mail server IP address
corresponding to the mail server name; and
connecting to the mail port of the mail server IP address.

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10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the on-line provider is a user-selected one of a plurality of on-line providers.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communicating with the mail server includes:

establishing at least one communications link from a group of communication links including an analog telephone line, a broadband link, a local area network, a radio frequency link, and an infrared link.

12. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the suffix portion includes at least two domain levels and a separator between each of the at least two domain levels, and wherein the converting further includes

stripping a left-most domain level and a left-most separator from the suffix portion prior to the prepending if the suffix portion includes more than two domain levels.

13. (Original) A system for e-mailing information to a recipient over the Internet, comprising:

an electronic device adapted for periodic connection to an Internet service provider and to a configuration computer, the electronic device having

a parameter memory,

a storage subsystem coupled to the parameter memory and responsive to a command from the configuration computer for storing configuration parameters in the parameter memory, and

an e-mail subsystem coupled to the parameter memory and responsive to a user request to connect to an e-mail server of the Internet service provider using a server name and to e-mail the information to the recipient; and

a configuration program executable by the configuration computer to determine the server name from the user's e-mail address.

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14. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the configuration program includes:
a parser to isolate a suffix from the user's e-mail address; and
a concatenator to prepend one of a predefined set of mail server prefixes to the suffix
to form the server name.

15. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the electronic device has an interface
selected from the group consisting of a dialup modem, a digital subscriber line modem, a
cable modem, a network interface, an infrared transceiver, and a radio frequency transceiver,
the interface adapted to connect the device to the Internet service provider.

16. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the configuration program further
determines a maximum e-mail message size supported by the e-mail server

17. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the e-mail subsystem further splits the
information into one or more e-mail messages, each e-mail message having a size of not more
than the maximum e-mail message size.

18. (Currently amended) A program storage medium readable by a computing
apparatus, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the computing
apparatus for configuring an electronic device to send e-mail via a mail server of an Internet
~~service~~ on-line access provider, the program storage medium comprising:

a first segment of the instructions configured to convert an e-mail address for a user of
the on-line access provider to a mail server name;

a second segment of the instructions configured to connect to the mail server using
access information so as to verify validity of the mail server name; and

a third segment of the instructions configured to download the mail server name and a
predetermined portion of the access information to the electronic device.

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19. (Original) The program storage medium of claim 18, wherein the e-mail address has a user name, a first separator, and a suffix, and wherein the first segment has an instruction subset configured to prepend one of a predetermined set of common mail server prefixes to the suffix so as to form the mail server name.

20. (Original) The program storage medium of claim 18, further comprising:
a fourth segment of the instructions configured to
detect a change in the access information, and
reconfigure the electronic device as required based on the change.

21. (Original) The program storage medium of claim 18, further comprising:
a fifth segment of the instructions configured to
receive data representing information to be sent to a specified recipient from the
electronic device,
connect to the mail server, and
using the mail server, transmit the information to the specified recipient as an e-mail
message.

22-29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ system of claim 22 13, wherein the Internet-enabled electronic device is a scanner.


31. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ system of claim 22 13, wherein the Internet-enabled electronic device is a multifunction peripheral including at least two devices selected from the group consisting of a printer, a scanner, a copier, and a fax machine.

32. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ system of claim 22 13, wherein the Internet-enabled device is a digital camera.

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33. (New) The system of claim 13, wherein the configuration program is further configured to query a domain name server so as to obtain an IP address associated with the server name.

34. (New) A method of communicating with an unknown mail server in order to send an e-mail message to a recipient via the unknown mail server, comprising:

 determining whether a machine-selected one of a plurality of canonical mail server names corresponds to the unknown mail server, the determining including providing the machine-selected mail server name to a domain name server; and

communicating with the unknown mail server via the identifier when the machine-selected mail server name corresponds to the unknown mail server.

35. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the determining further includes:

receiving from the domain name server an identifier associated with the unknown mail server, if the machine-selected mail server name corresponds to the unknown mail server.

36. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the identifier includes an IP address.
